

ventured to come and live in it when it was a mass of mild, unbroken forest, with no fruitful farms spreading their golden crops and white blossoming orchards, no steam-boats or sails on lake or river, but only pathless woods infested with fierce animals and wandering bands of savages at war with each other. We can never realize all the years of lonely exile, of toil and danger, bravely and patiently borne by men and women, and even children, during the last three centuries, to make this beautiful country, stretching from sea to sea, a glorious inheritance for us, with its mountains and prairies, its hills and rivers and lakes, and its quiet streams watering its green pastures. Do we not owe it to those who have gone before us to love and serve this fair Canada they have left us?

But how can boys and girls love and serve their country? Did you ever read of the little Dutch boy, who, passing one of the earthen "dykes," which keep the water in the great canals from flooding the whole country, saw a little water coming through a break, and knew that if it were not stopped at once it would soon spread and run over the whole neighborhood? But there was no one near and the brave boy had to stop it first with his arm, then with his shoulder, and to remain thus for hours till help came, and he had saved the country at the expense of much suffering to himself.

Now there is a great flood of evil which is always threatening to spread over our country, as well as other countries, and to destroy the foundation of righteousness on which the true welfare of any country must rest. This flood of evil is first selfishness, or thinking only of ourselves, and, next, unfaithfulness in fulfilling our duties to others. Now, boys and girls can help to stop this flood by simply *being faithful*—faithful to our laws, which are made for the protection of all, so that the strong shall not oppress the weak; faithful to duty, faithful to friends, faithful to employers, faithful to truth, faithful to their promises; above all, faithful to their God and Saviour, from whom they will receive the love and strength to be faithful to their country and to the people in it.

A Chat With the Boys

By Mrs. W. G. Wallace

As I look from my window this bright summer day, I can see the boys at their games and hear their happy voices.

Have you ever thought what life would be like without games, sunshine, twittering birds, the trees that we can watch each day as the buds form, then burst, then grow more and more into the fulness of their perfect beauty?

Would life be a pleasant thing without these bright surroundings? How do you take the wet, disagreeable days,—you never grumble, nor complain, do you?

It is extremely easy to grumble, boys; but how many of you, I wonder, think it worth while to thank Him who gives us the sunshine, the happy home, strength of body and mind, daily food, and, indeed, all the brightness of our lives? You would think it rather mean and ungrateful if a friend gave you a birthday gift and you said not a single "thank you" for it, would you not? Is it not rather mean and ungrateful to take all God's good gifts for granted, and never give Him anything in return, not even a daily "thank you"?

Why, boys, what were you sent into this world for? Simply to enjoy yourselves? Enjoyment is a good thing; God wants us to be happy; but surely there is something better for us all to do than just to please ourselves.

You know that there is a continual warfare going on in the world between the Prince of Light, who is Christ, and the Prince of Darkness, who is Satan; but do you know that Jesus needs *you* to help Him on His side? Why, it is for this purpose, you have been sent into the world, to live for Christ, to fight for His honor and glory; and if you do not do it, if you decline to take the place in His army He has planned for you—sent you into this world to take—it will be left vacant, and you will never hear His "Well done, good and faithful servant," addressed to you.